



South Carolina Budget and Control Board

Colin J. McRae Collection: Business Papers (1861- 1872) Finding Aid

Creator: Colin J. McRae

Extent: 4 document boxes

3 oversize boxes

Location: SCCRRMM Archives

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I. List of Series:

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- Selma Series
- Huse Audit Series
- McRae in England Series
- Financing the Confederacy Series
- Confederate Military and Government Series
- Post-War Business Correspondence Series
- McRae Family Series
- Miscellaneous Series

II. Biographical Sketch

The McRae Business Papers contain documents collected by Colin J. McRae (1813-1877) during his years of service with the Confederate government and the immediate post-war years. McRae was actively involved in establishing the Selma Foundry and served as the chief Confederate financial agent to Europe from 1863-1865. The McRae Business Papers are mainly comprised of accounting ledgers, receipts, letters, and loan drafts. Additional items include Confederate government documents, family correspondence about the war, and establishing a postwar Confederate colony in Belize, British Honduras.

McRae was born in North Carolina, but his family soon moved to Mississippi. His father, John M. McRae, established successful businesses involving commerce along the Mississippi delta. Colin McRae inherited these businesses at his father's death in 1835. In 1838, McRae served a term on the Mississippi legislature. Afterwards, McRae decided to relocate to Mobile, Alabama in 1840. In Mobile, he became further involved with buying and selling cotton as well as shipping supplies to local planters. McRae helped to establish the company Boykin & McRae (subsequently Boykin, McRae & Foster).

In February of 1861, McRae served on the Alabama delegation to form the Provisional Government of the Confederate States. McRae then dedicated himself to securing the South from Federal invasion, especially along the Mobile harbor. He also worried about the lack of gunpowder and small arms production in the South and petitioned for a foundry to be established at Selma, Alabama. McRae hoped that the Confederate government would purchase the local Selma Manufacturing Company while the nearby Shelby Iron Company would supply the necessary pig iron. Colonel Josiah Gorgas, the Confederate Chief of Ordnance, finally gave McRae the approval to proceed with the Selma plan in March of 1862. In spite of all of this work, it was not until July of 1862 that McRae officially became an agent with the Confederate Ordnance Bureau.

In 1863, McRae received notice from the Confederate government that due to his previous background in business, finance, and shipping, his services were requested in Europe to assume the duties as the Confederacy's chief financial agent. The Confederate government hoped that McRae could improve the reputation of the Confederacy's financial stability while overseeing loans, efficient purchasing, and blockade running shipments. The credit of the Confederate purchasers had been substantially damaged due to improper oversight of funds and problematic record keeping. His first mission was to secure credit for the Confederacy to borrow against.

McRae arrived in England on May 13, 1863, and proceeded to Paris to work with John Slidell, Confederate commissioner to Paris, on the refinance of the Erlanger Loan, financed by Emile Erlanger & Company, for the Confederacy. McRae was to oversee its refinance, maintenance, and disbursement. The Erlanger Loan became the backbone to Confederate purchasing from January of 1863 until the close of the war. McRae helped to refinance the loan at more favorable terms and assisted in a plan to back the loans with cotton shipped from Southern plantations on blockade runners. Proceeds from the loan

were deposited directly into Confederate accounts at Fraser, Trenholm, & Company in Liverpool.

Early in the war, the Confederacy negotiated with Fraser, Trenholm, & Company to be the official repository for Confederate funds. Confederate agents applied to Fraser, Trenholm, & Co. for the payment of their accounts purchased from English merchants. However, due to poor communication and internal rivalries between Confederate purchasing agents, the account was often overdrawn and funds not filtered to the most urgent Confederate purchasing needs. McRae worked to prioritize Confederate purchasing and establish enough financial backing as to not overdraw the account.

Additionally, McRae oversaw the investigation and audit of Confederate Ordnance Department purchasing agent Caleb Huse and his dealings with S. Isaac Campbell & Company. The Confederacy hoped that this audit would help to reestablish credit with the lending community. Huse had asked for the audit to clear his reputation and fully cooperated with the proceedings. McRae began the in August of 1863, assisted by M. Hildreth Bloodgood. During the audit, the Confederate government used the opportunity to investigate S. Isaac Campbell & Company's bookkeeping practices. Although Huse was cleared of charges, S. Isaac Campbell & Company had to settle with the Confederate government due to a series of overcharges.

After the collapse of the Confederate government, McRae remained in England and became the center of the United States investigation into the Confederacy's accounting records. Convinced that the Confederacy was still hiding money, the United States took McRae to court in England in order to investigate his accounting books. The case against McRae was eventually dismissed by the English courts in 1869, but the experience left him concerned about his future if he were to return to the United States. McRae eventually relocated to Belize, British Honduras in the fall of 1867.

III. History of the Collection

After the war, McRae settled in Belize, British Honduras. McRae purchased land and continued running a plantation and mercantile business. Since he was never officially pardoned, McRae decided it was too risky to return to the former Confederate States. In May of 1868, McRae's sister, Catherine McRae (Hempstead), and brother, John McRae, visited him in Belize. John, the ex governor of Mississippi, was gravely ill but wanted to see his brother one last time. John died soon after arriving in Belize and was buried there. While in Belize, Catherine met and married Christopher Hempstead, a successful businessman and friend of McRae, who was an exiled Confederate. During 1875, McRae willed all of his property to his sister Catherine until his nieces and nephews from his other sister, Isabelle Armor, were of age. McRae died in February of 1877. It is unclear at what point between 1868 and 1877, or shortly thereafter, Colin McRae's business and family papers were brought to the family house, now known as the Kate Shepherd House, in Mobile, Alabama.

In 2003, William and Wendy James acquired the Kate Shepherd House and all of its contents. In early 2005, John Sexton revised an inventory of the collection, which became the backbone to the current finding aid and inventory. At this point, the collection was split into two collections: the McRae Business Papers (inventoried) and the McRae Family Papers (not inventoried). In 2006, the South Carolina Confederate Relic Room and Military Museum contracted with the James's to purchase the papers.

The collection has been in SCCRRMM possession since October of 2006. Since then, the McRae Business Papers have been re-inventoried on two occasions. The papers have been rehoused into archival materials and reorganized into the series and subseries described in this finding aid. Additionally, the papers were sent to a conservation lab for basic care and conservation. The papers contained mold spores that may affect researcher's allergies; no active mold was discovered.

The McRae Family Papers have been inventoried and are housed as a separate collection. While processing the family papers, two-hundred additional documents were transferred from the Family Papers to the Business Papers. These documents included all wartime and immediate post-war related correspondence and other business documents. The transfer of these documents occurred during the spring of 2009. Several of the series were re-inventoried at this point.

IV. Description of Series and Subseries

Maritime Series:

Shipbuilding at Mobile Subseries

The Shipbuilding Subseries runs from November of 1861 through June of 1862. The seventeen documents include the costs of building Gunboats #1 and #2. Associated names in the subseries: J.E. Armor; J.E. Murray; E. Echusell (?); E. Richardson; and Henry Holz (?).

Wartime Shipping Subseries

The Wartime Shipping Subseries includes thirty-one documents, many of which are undated. The dated documents stretch from November of 1861 through April of 1865. Some of the documents (1861-1863) might have been gathered for the Caleb Huse investigation and arbitration, but do not directly relate to any particular business. It remains unclear why some of the other documents were collected. Associated names in the subseries: Jones, Quggin & Co.; Messrs. Gilliat & Co.; Thomas Sterling Begbie; Master Dyett; Capt. Halpin; J. E. Armor; David Davis. Associated ships in the subseries: *Culew*, *Plover*, *Louisa Ann Fanny*, *Eugenie*, *Melita*, *Harriet Pinckney*, *Miriam*, *Cornubia*, *Columbia*, *Southwick*, *Gladiator*, *Mimmera*, *Fingal*, *Nancy*, *Tuscaloosa*, and *Giraffe*.

Selma Series:

The Selma Series contains twenty-one documents related to the establishment and function of the Selma Foundry from December of 1861 through February of 1863.

Associated names in the subseries: Jefferson Davis; M.E. Ellecrree (?); Mallory; C.J. Gorgas; George Minor; A.E. Seurs; George H. Gardner; J.P. Benjamin; Gov. John G. Shorter; J. Haraldson; Joel Jones; and William W. Fay.

Huse Audit Series:

The Huse Audit Series is comprised of seventeen subseries. The series reflects a variety of Caleb Huse's business dealings for the Confederate Government from 1861 through the middle of 1863. These papers were mainly gathered by McRae and Bloodgood for the investigation into Huse's financial dealings as well as the legitimacy of some of the S. Isaac Campbell & Company's book keeping and charges. The majority of the business papers are associated with S. Isaac Campbell & Co. The series is organized by company of origin of the purchase. Within the item level inventory, associated blockade runners are listed.

S. Isaac Campbell & Co. Subseries (1861-63)

The S. Isaac Campbell & Co. Subseries is the largest series, containing 306 documents stretching from August 12, 1861 through December 31, 1863. The documents record what Huse purchased from SIC, quantities, and price through invoices, inspection certificates, and insurance agreements. Associated names in the subseries: Spyer & Haywood; Greek & Oriental Steam Navigation Co.; Pickford & Co.; Mercantile Fire Insurance Co.; Imperial Fire Office; Ritchie; Barnett & Co.; William Crayshaw; B.W. Hart; H. Adderley; S.B. Berendoca; Chadwick; Savory & Moore; Thomas Firth & Sons; Sinclair Hamilton; Dyett; William Bennett; Halpin; South Eastern Railway; Davenports & Co.; Randy Brothers & Co.; R.T. Strangman; N. Clement; W.A. Webster; Robinson and Fleming; Armstrong & Allen; Collier Brothers; J.H. Burton; John Simonds; Davis Coal; Stringer Pembroke, Alex, Ross, & Co.; John Churchill; John Reive; S.F. Pierson; Ashby; Banks; Pearce; Does; Crabb; Knott; Gregg; White; Legg; Denison; Hughs; William Pike; Betsey Pike; John Morley; Fraser; Plymouth Foundry; Charles Parsons; William Gray; Fortmum & Mason & Co.; Cleverdon Joiner; Richard Mitchell; Davenports & Co.; Randy Brothers & Co.; N. Clement; Armstrong & Allen; Collier Brothers; Borroughs; J.H. Tuck & Co.; Frederick Lassiter; Alexander McQueen; Ely Brothers; Fraser & Trenholm; Blakely Cannon Co.; R. & W. Aston; John T. Bourne; William Efsex & Sons; Theodore Satchell; and Moreton & Foster; Cunard. Associated ships in the subseries: *Cornuba*, *Dashing Wave*, *Harriet Pinckney*, *Minna*, *Eugenie*, *Melita*, *Evelind*, *Coral Isle*, *Gibraltar*, *Miriam*, *Hero*, *Charles & Jane*, *Lemuella*, *Merrimac*, *Glendower*, *Agrippina*, *Gladiator*, *Stephen Hart*, *Southwick*, *Economist*, *Fingal*, *Justitia*, *Giraffe*, *Phoebe*, and *Southwick*.

Alexander Ross Subseries

The Alexander Ross Subseries contains one document, dated January 21, 1863, and it discusses a shipment to Bermuda. Associated names in the subseries: John Reive. Associated ships in the subseries: *Dashing Wave*.

John Brown & Co. Subseries

The John Brown & Co. Subseries contains one document, dated June 7, 1862. The document pertains to patent rifled guns, naval carriages and slides, as well as 18-pound and 12-pound shells.

Gibson & Co. Subseries

The Gibson & Co. Subseries contains one document, dated January 21, 1863. The document discusses a shipment to Bermuda. Associated names in the subseries: John Reive. Associated ships in the subseries: *Dashing Wave*.

J.E. Barnett & Sons Subseries

The J.E. Barnett & Sons Subseries contains two documents, dated July 3, 1863 and July 5, 1863. The documents provide accounting notes and information related to rifles, muskets, and moulds.

Grazebrook Subseries

The Grazebrook Subseries contains twenty-one documents ranging from May 1, 1861 through July 7, 1863 documenting the purchases of Enfield rifles and accessories. The invoices clearly demonstrate involvement of Fraser, Trenholm & Co. as the clearinghouse for Confederate funds.

Eley Brothers Subseries

The Eley Brothers Subseries contains twelve documents dated from July 8, 1862 through August 6, 1862. The documents invoice various military accoutrements and ammunition purchased by Huse.

Curtis's & Harvey Subseries

The Curtis's & Harvey Subseries contains eight documents spanning from August of 1861 through August of 1862. The documents are mainly invoices and receipts dealing with the purchase of gunpowder. Associated names in the subseries: Bullock and E.C. Anderson. Associated ships in the subseries: *Nancy*, *Colletis*, *Gladiator*, *Stephen Hart*, and *Southwick*.

John Hall & Son Subseries

The John Hall & Sons Subseries contains three documents, which are dated from January through February of 1863. The documents mainly deal with the purchase of gunpowder, fuses, and muskets. Associated names in the subseries: S. Isaac & Campbell. Associated ships in the subseries: *Economist* and *Southwick*.

Sinclair, Hamilton, & Co. Subseries

The Sinclair, Hamilton & Co. Subseries contains twelve documents, which were created between June of 1861 and October of 1863. The documents include letters and invoices that mostly deal with the purchase of Enfield rifles and bayonets. Associated names in the

subseries: London Armory Co.; Fraser, Trenholm, & Co. Associated ships in the subseries: *Phoebe*.

Spyer & Haywood Subseries

The Spyer & Haywood Subseries contains twenty documents spanning from mid-October of 1861 through early July of 1863. Most of the documents are connected to the *Stephen Hart* and deal with crew wages and expenses. The remaining documents deal with shipments to Bermuda. Associated names in the subseries: George Erwin; Murphy; Horan; Mrs. Murphy; J.R. Johnson; Joseph Peck; Robert Allen; Dyett; Tessiman; L. Rowling. Associated ships in the subseries: *Stephen Hart*, *Merrimac*, *Coral Isle*, and *Harriet Pinckney*.

Louis Merton Subseries

The Louis Merton Subseries contains six documents dating from February of 1862 through April of 1863. The subseries mainly includes invoices detailing purchasing through Austria. These documents help to serve as background to the damaged Austrian rifles arbitration located in the McRae in England Series. Associated names in the subseries: Arsenal at Vienna.

Alexander Ren & Co. Subseries

The Alexander Ren & Co. Subseries contains two documents. The documents are handwritten notes regarding accounts from 1861 through 1863 (dated in the finding aid by their earliest purchase). The account includes the purchase of blankets, buckles, and artillery.

Mark Whitwill & Son Subseries

The Mark Whitwill & Son Subseries contains four documents from October of 1861. All of the documents relate to purchasing and disbursements for the *Stephen Hart*. Associated names in the subseries: Pat Block and George Erwin. Associated ships in the subseries: *Stephen Hart*.

Blakely Ordnance Co. / Fawcett & Preston Subseries

The Blakely Ordnance Co./ Fawcett & Preston Subseries contains seven documents. The documents are mainly invoices for Blakely guns, ordnance, carriage cases, and fuses, which date between August of 1861 and May of 1863. Associated names in the subseries: R.K. Connell.

Thomas Firth & Sons Subseries

The Thomas Firth & Sons Subseries contains one document, dated August 9, 1862. The document is for the settling the account of a purchase of steel. Associated names in the subseries: Marcus Fenton.

Miscellaneous Subseries

The Miscellaneous Subseries contains seventy-one documents that do not directly relate to the purchasing efforts between Huse and a specific company, even though the documents were created for the Huse audit. Most of the documents in this subseries relate

to the *Stephen Hart*. Additionally, there is an order from the Confederate Medical Department and an order from the Confederate Laboratory and Ordnance. The documents dates range from October of 1861 through April of 1863. Associated names in the subseries: Ferguson; H. Browning; Robert Johns; G. Erwin; Christopher King; J. Clements; Charles Hill & Sons; Webb Brothers; Stephen Alsop; Bristol Steam Towing Co.; Bristol Water Works; Haven Masters Office; Joseph Roles; Barnes and Adey; C. Dix; Electric & International Telegraph Co.; Watts Brothers; Joseph Bristow; (B.W./B.M./B.H.) Chadwick; Joseph Brewster; Hood & Co.; Thomas Clark; E.J. Naylor; John Henland; W. Hogg & Son; Charles Pitts; James Melville; James Dunson; Ford, Curtis & Curtis; J.D. Potter; William Mitcheson; J. Wright; John Lamb; H.P. Barraud; Caledonian Steam Towing Co.; John Gaywood; Troughton & Bevan; Sam Banks; Emerson; M. Penn; Thomas Marsh; Robert Allen; B.W. Hart; J. Spence; Eugene Morie; William Robinson; Carol Person; Charles Wellman; Enoch Bain; John Secoh; Charles Holot; and David Tolinson. Associated ships in the subseries: *Stephen Hart*, *Columbia*, *Gladiator*, *Volunteer*, *Tamaulipas* (?), and *Merrimac*.

McRae in England Series:

The McRae in England Series contains three subseries. These documents were either created by McRae or used by McRae during his official Confederate business in England from 1863 through 1865.

Huse Arbitration Subseries

The Huse Arbitration Subseries include fifty-five documents that detail the events surrounding the investigation and arbitration of Caleb Huse's business dealings. Additionally, the papers deal with the investigation and arbitration involving S. Isaac Campbell & Co. Throughout the papers, the term "arbitration" is used to describe the problems with Huse, SIC, and the damaged shipment of Austrian rifles. The arranger has attempted to clarify this where possible. Associated names in the subseries: Crenshaw; James Seddon; Spyer & Haywood; Bloodgood; J.B. Ferguson; Quilter Ball; Barnett & Company; Gorgas; S. Isaac Campbell & Co.; and Thomas Hollams. Associated ships in the subseries: *Justitia* and *Columbia*.

Purchasing Subseries

The Purchasing Subseries contains twelve documents related to purchasing not associated with the audit into Huse's business dealings. The documents span April of 1863 through January of 1865. Purchases include food and military goods. Associated names in the subseries: John Hart and Sons; Hebbert & Co.; S. Zigonalo; Crenshaw; Hyde & Co.; Washington Morton; George Eggers. Associated ships in the subseries: *Planet*.

Wartime Correspondence Subseries

The Wartime Correspondence Subseries includes thirty-nine letters written between March 20, 1863 and April 2, 1865. The letters were collected by McRae, although some letters were written prior to his arrival in England. The correspondence covers a variety of topics that McRae handled while in England outside of the Huse arbitration. Most of

the letters revolve around settling a shipment of damaged Austrian rifles. Associated names in the subseries: Quilter Ball & Co.; Bloodgood; Gorgas; Callis; W. Crenshaw; J.M. Mason; J.B. Ferguson; S. Isaac Campbell & Co.; John O. Freeman; Elizabeth McRae; C.S. Ramsay. Associated ships in the subseries: *Harriet Pinckney*.

Financing the Confederacy Series:

The Financing the Confederacy Series contains sixty-one documents detailing the financial dealings of the Confederacy in Europe. Most of the papers were collected by McRae during his years in England, although some pre-date his arrival. The documents span between June 30, 1861 and December 5, 1864. The series includes the renegotiation of the Erlanger Loan, the dispute and resolution with S. Isaac & Campbell, amended accounts, cotton warrants, payments, and appointments. These documents relate to the Huse Arbitration Series but were separated since many documents not created specifically for the investigation. Associated names in the subseries: Bloodgood; Alexander Collie; Charles H. Boshier; Caleb Huse; William Crenshaw; J.E. Armor; S. Isaac Campbell & Co.; Col. C.J. Helm; Gorgas; Quilter Ball; Thomas & Hollams. Associated ships in the subseries: *Stephen Hart*, *Harriet Pinckney*, *Miriam*.

Confederate Military and Government Series:

The Confederate Military and Government Series contains twenty-eight documents collected by McRae, most likely during the early war years. Most of the documents are undated, but the dated ones span between January of 1861 and December of 1863. Topics include nominations from Alabama, Tredegar Iron Works, distribution of the Army of the Potomac, possible contractors in Europe, and a speech by Jefferson Davis. Associated names in the subseries: Jefferson Davis; John J. McRae; George Ketchum; Capt. H. Van Eaton; W.A. Champlin; J.E. Murry; Murrell; Kennedy; J. Bragg; Erwin; W.S. Ashby; James Seddon; and Joseph R. Anderson.

Post-War Business Correspondence Series:

Colin J. McRae Correspondence Subseries

The Colin McRae Correspondence Subseries contains seventy-eight documents associated with McRae in the post-war years. The documents are dated between April of 1865 and April of 1874. The subseries includes documents pertaining to the legal representation and pardon of Colin McRae. Other documents discuss the closing of Confederate business accounts, Jefferson Davis' imprisonment, encouraging Southern settlement in Honduras, and personal business adventures. Associated names in the subseries: Thomas & Hollams; Andrew Johnson; John J. McRae; W. Preston; P.N. Bernard; London Armory Co.; Henry Trzeszewski (?); George Gardner; McGill Shorter; William Crenshaw & Co; Elsworth Works; E.J. Tindall; St. John's Wood Estate Office; Philip de la Charse; Darent Harrison; Joseph P. Benjamin; R.C. Hall; Hotze; Alexander

Collie; John Carter; John Murrell; J.E. Armor, George Helterman; Gilliat; P. Robertson Rumford; Breckenridge; Jefferson Davis; Andrew Johnson; J.E. Armor; Robert Ferguson; J.F. DeCross; C. Wrieseldorff (?); Glyn & Co.; W.G. Robinson; Young, Harrison, & Brevane; F. Stewart; J. Boyles; H.O. Brown; E.M. Boykin; Thomas Marns; Catherine (Kate) McRae; and J. Hodge. Associated ships in the subseries: *L.A. Fanny*, *Curlew*, and *Plover*.

J.J. Newberry Subseries

The J.J. Newberry Subseries contains four letters between Colin McRae and Newberry from November of 1868 through July of 1869. The correspondence discusses business opportunities, such as sugar refining. Associated names in the subseries: Brewer, Gilchrest, and Mrs. Newberry. Associated ships in the subseries: *Boboulina* and *Colonel Lamb*.

John Gilliat Subseries

The John Gilliat Subseries includes thirteen documents spanning from October of 1865 through October of 1867. The documents discuss the post-war closing of Confederate business accounts along with McRae's personal involvement with the cotton and blockade running business. Associated ships in the subseries: *Stag*, *Deer*, *L.A. Fanny*, *Curlew*, *Plover*, *Florida*, and *Mary Augusta*.

Hewitt and Norton Subseries

The Hewitt and Norton Subseries contains nineteen documents pertaining to Colin McRae's post-war private business dealings in cotton from March of 1866 through February of 1868. Associated ships in the subseries: *Florida*.

John G. Witt Subseries

The John G. Witt Subseries includes eight letters written between Colin McRae and Witt. The letters are dated March of 1868 through March of 1870. The correspondence describes post-war finances, politics, and business opportunities, including the Martini gun. Associated names in the subseries: Colin McRae, Hotze; Emma; Hamber; Brewer; Hopkins; Disraeli; Jefferson Davis; Young, Toledo, & Co.; Martini; Gladstone & Bright; Newberry; Whitehorn; Benjamin; and MacFarland.

J. Mason Subseries

The J. Mason Subseries contains nine letters from Mason to McRae dated from May of 1865 through January of 1866. Associated names in the subseries: Colin McRae, Breckenridge, Hotze, and Thompson.

McRae Family Series:

Wartime Correspondence Subseries

The Wartime Correspondence Subseries includes forty-eight documents associated with the McRae family. These documents, dated between March of 1861 and April of 1865, relate to the problems encountered by the family during the war years. The correspondence includes references to family members fighting, protecting Colin J.

McRae's property, and the destruction of the Selma. A number of the letters pertain to Colin McRae's brother, John J. McRae. Specific battles and generals are discussed in the documents. Associated names in the subseries: Colin McRae; Catherine (Kate) McRae; E.M. Boykin; John J. McRae; P.K. Mayers (Mayes); A.E. Seurs; Mrs. McRae; W. Woolf; C. McRae Selph; A.E. Lewis; Celia McCormick; G.H. Parker; J.D. Brooks; C. Randall; D. McRae; John W. Ferguson; S.B. Parker; R.H. Redwood Jr.; Taylor McRae; Benjamin Wynn; Mack McRae; G. Gardener; Alex Jeffer___(?); Robert Cummings; Mary E. Boykin; S.H. Boykin; Gracy; Longstreet; Stewart; Lee; Johnston; Jones; John M. Borders; Amanda Frederic; Aristde Krebs; Antonio Baptiste; Griffin; Grant; Banard; Sarrazin; Jackson; Jefferson Davis; James B. McRae; Hunter; and Albert; J. Boykin. Associated ships in the subseries: *Grey Cloud*.

Post-War Correspondence Subseries

The Post-War Correspondence Subseries contains sixteen documents associated with the McRae family from May of 1865 through June of 1867. Most of these documents are associated with John J. McRae, including information about his pardon and family finances. Associated names in the subseries: John J. McRae; Kate Boykin; Isabelle Armor; Jim; Joseph Davis; E.M. Boykin; William Sharkey; Elizabeth McRae; Daniel Wheeler & Co.; Colin McRae; Anne; Jessie; William Dennison; Jefferson Davis; Taylor; Malcolm; Jane Malthus; and Charles.

Miscellaneous Series:

The Miscellaneous Series contains three documents. Only one is dated (April of 1863). The other two documents are in fragile condition and cannot be opened.

V. Container List

Box 1

-Huse Audit Series: S. Isaac Campbell & Co. Subseries, 1861-63

Box 2

-Huse Audit Series: Alexander Ross Subseries; John Brown & Co. Subseries; Gibson & Co. Subseries; J.E. Barnett & Sons Subseries; Grazebrook Subseries; Eley Brothers Subseries; Curtis's & Harvey Subseries; John Hall & Son Subseries; Sinclair, Hamilton, & Co. Subseries; Spyer & Haywood Subseries; Louis Merton Subseries; Alexander Ren & Co. Subseries; Mark Whitwill & Son Subseries; Blakely Ordnance Co./ Fawcett & Preston Subseries, Thomas Firth & Sons Subseries; Miscellaneous Subseries

Box 3

-Maritime Series: Shipbuilding at Mobile Subseries; Wartime Shipping Subseries

-Selma Series

-McRae in England Series: Huse Arbitration Subseries; Purchasing Subseries; Wartime Correspondence Subseries

- Financing the Confederacy Series
- Confederate Military and Government Series
- Miscellaneous Series

Box 4

- Post-War Business Correspondence Series: Colin J. McRae Business Correspondence Subseries; J. J. Newberry Subseries; John Gilliat Subseries; Hewett & Norton Subseries; John G. Witt Subseries; J. Mason Subseries
- McRae Family Series: Wartime Correspondence Subseries; Post-War Correspondence Subseries

Oversize Box A

- Oversize related to Boxes 3 and 4

Oversize Box B

- Large oversize related to Boxes 1- 4

Oversize Box C

- Oversize related to Boxes 1 and 2

*For item level descriptions, please see individual series inventories

VI. Related Collections and Materials at the SCCRRM

McRae Family Papers- These papers were discovered in the Kate Shepherd House alongside the McRae Business Papers. The documents reflect personal and family correspondence spanning before, during, and after the Civil War. A majority of the most relevant documents to the wartime experience of Colin McRae are located in the Business Paper's under the McRae Family Series. A separate finding aid and inventory has been created and the collection is available for research.

McRae Supplemental Series- This collection of documents has been acquired by the SCCRRMM through donations and purchases separate from the "McRae Collection" purchase from the Shepherd House. The McRae Supplemental Series has a separate inventory.

McRae Research Files- The research files contain photocopied documents and secondary source articles pertaining to McRae, Huse, English companies, financing the Confederacy, blockade running, Selma, Mobile, and the good being purchased in Europe. The research files are not comprised of original materials.

Library Books- The SCCRRMM has a number of books pertaining to the topics covered by the McRae exhibit. These are available for use in the library and are not for check out.

VII. Arranger's Notes

The initial 2005 inventory dates documents by the earliest date on the ledger. Therefore, documents are chronologically ordered by the origination date and not the date it was sent to McRae, Huse, or another party. In order to standardize the chronology of the documents, subsequent processing of the papers followed the original inventory's system of dating.

Care was taken to achieve the most accurate spelling of names and the most accurate description of content. If you find an error, please let the archivist know.

Processed by: Kristina Dunn Johnson

Date Completed: May 2, 2008

Date Updated: June 3, 2009

Preferred Citation: *Colin J. McRae Collection at the South Carolina Confederate Relic Room and Military Museum*